As regards the shifting of the taluk headquarters to Alwaye or the opening of a sub-treasury office there, I am sorry to say that the Peishkar has not offered any remarks. You have quoted certain facts and figures. I shall investigate that matter and see whether a sub-treasury is necessary there.

With regard to shifting the Sub-Registrar's office from Tottakkattukara to Alwaye, I think there is a good deal of justification in what you say, namely, that it is a hardship to the people who live on the southern side of the river to have to go to the Sub-Registrar's office on the northern side. The Director of Registration says that it is not necessary to shift the Sub-Registrar's office from the northern side of the river to the southern side, because remittances are being taken to Parur and the men need not cross the river. The Sub-Registrar's office does not exist for the convenience of the officer, but for the convenience of the public. I think the Director should explore the possibility of altering the jurisdiction of the Sub-Registry office on both sides of the river, so as to make it convenient for both classes of people to go to the Sub-Registry office without being obliged to cross the river. I shall ask the Director of Registration to do the needful.

As for the opening of an English Middle School for girls at Alwaye, I am sorry that the matter is still pending with the Education Department. The Director will be reminded to send his remarks without further delay.

In regard to the grant to the local Sanskrit Patasala, that grant was formerly less than what it is now. It was Rs. 50 some time ago, and it was raised to Rs. 80 in 1918. Now the school authorities have asked for a grant to the hostel which they have started and the Principal of the Sanskrit College has been asked to inspect and submit a report, and if it is satisfactory we shall give a grant. I do not think that Government have got funds to increase the maintenance grant to the institution now. We are paying Rs. 80 a month or nearly Rs. 1,000 a year, and I think the institution must be satisfied with that amount.

As regards the nomination of Municipal Councillors and Village Panchayat Court Judges from among the residents of the town, I think there again you are right. I do not see any meaning in people who are five or eight miles away from the town being asked to serve on the Village Panchayat courts. Peishkars have been informed by circular that they should themselves examine nominations, and there seems still to be a good deal of negligence. I shall again ask them to nominate persons who live within the limits of the town.

The question of giving to the Alwaye Municipality an elected President will be considered when the present President's tenure ends.

The last thing is about the bridge across the river. You have thrown out a suggestion which I think deserves consideration. You say that the river need not be bridged at the place where it is intended to be bridged, but that it may be bridged near the northern arm. It is a very sound proposition to be placed before the Government. You will still have a circuitous route if you want to go to Parur. But that is a lesser evil. I will ask the Chief Engineer to investigate the feasibility of putting up a bridge across the northern arm of the river at the place mentioned by you. If the cost is anything like Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 5,000 as stated by you, we will certainly prefer it to spending four or five lakhs of rupees. The matter will be considered.

93. Sanitation of Arudai Town with special reference to water supply and the appointment of conservancy staff.

Mr. O. P. Anantanarayana Aiyar (Member, Peermade taluk) began by remarking that the members who represented Peermade in the past years from 1087 never made any suggestions to improve the condition of the town. In 1097 some correspondence took place regarding the constitution of a Municipality at Peermade; but that proposal was dropped. There were only a few houses scattered here and there at Peermade if Government buildings and officers' quarters were left out of consideration. The inhabitants depended on the small stream called Azhutayar and a few wells for water supply. But the latter got dried up during Makaram to Edavam;

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and what little water remained in the stream in small pools here and there was rendered unwholesome by decayed leaves and stray cattle. People using such water were likely to catch malaria and other diseases. The Member observed that even if deep wells were to be constructed it was not likely that they would be of much use. His Gracious Highness the Maha Raja on his Royal visit and the Dewan in his circuits had occasions to note the miseries of the people, and there was an idea to put up an anicut and introduce the pipe system there. Accordingly, an estimate was drawn up, but nothing came out of it. The Member therefore very strongly pleaded for the early execution of a water-supply scheme, the success of which, the Member hoped, would save the inhabitants from malaria. It would also attract settlers from other places and thereby help to increase the present scanty population of Peermade.

The Member next stated that there was only one sweeper for the whole town. He pleaded that at least half a dozen sweepers and an overseer should be appointed. It was also necessary that proper lamps should be provided during night in public places and in sharp corners along public roads. He suggested that the Taluk officers might be entrusted with these arrangements.

As the public offices there were not enclosed, but were surrounded by bushes, the verandahs of those buildings gave shelter to stray cattle, and that rendered them very dirty. The bushy premises of those offices afforded a convenient cover to tigers and other wild animals. Several cases were instanced by the Member, in which domestic animals were carried off by wild beasts from the very precincts of officers' quarters. In order to prevent these, the Member suggested that the open premises of Sirkar buildings might be demarcated and properly enclosed with *kayala* walls and barbed wire fences, and that they be cleared twice or thrice every year and planted with casuarina trees. The officers residing within those premises should take care that those trees grew up properly, and it would then be easy for the Land Revenue Commissioner to have supervision over it. If that were done, there would be no need for reserving about 100 acres of land which the Government had already ordered to be reserved and planted up with trees for fuel supply by the Forest Department, whereas that land could be registered in the names of private individuals, which would result in a large gain to the Government in the shape of *taravila* and annual tax. Other advantages in planting up those trees, as pointed out by the Member, were that they would protect the occupants of the buildings from storms and the violent blasts of December, January, June, July and August; that the boundaries of Sirkar buildings could be easily distinguished; and that cultivation could be undertaken, free from the depradation of wild animals.

In conclusion, the Member dwelt upon the inconvenience and hardship caused to the public for want of a small-pox shed. He also requested that provision might be made for burial grounds, as the present practice of burying dead bodies on the banks of the river was highly dangerous to the health of the people.

Dewan's reply—You have spoken about water supply, conservancy, fuel reserve, burial and small-pox. You must remember that Arudai consists mostly of people who are attached to the taluk and Division Assistant's offices. You cannot expect a costly or an elaborate scheme for Arudai, so far as the supply of water is concerned. No doubt, it requires some scheme of water supply. The cheapest way of doing it is to sink wells. A particular place was pointed out to me just below the white house, as a possible site for storing water and I have given instructions that any land within the catchment area should not be registered but reserved, so that, if in future we have a big settlement there, we may think of a water supply scheme.

In regard to conservancy also the same remark applies. Arudai is neither a municipal town nor a conservancy town. It consists of a few houses of employees and we cannot spend a lot of money on it. When the Village Panchayat Regulation is passed into law, you can form a Village Panchayat there and work it. There must be people to supervise.

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Member.—The sweeper will have to go both to the Division Assistant's office and the Taluk office.

Dewan.—You have a separate sweeper.

Member.—If the sweeper is not found by the Tahsildar, he will say that he went to the First Class Magistrate's court.

Dewan.—Sweeping is being done once a week from the contingencies of the Revenue Department and the expenditure will be less. That is the present arrangement. You can form a small Panchayat in advance and it is the people that must take part in all these things.

Member.—My representation is not only in the interests of the public but of the officers as well.

Dewan.—Yes. It is true.

Member.—If the officers find the place convenient, other people will come and stay there. Now it is the fever season owing to bad water.

Dewan.—I do not think the place is malarious.

Member.—It is not malarious.

Dewan.—It is for you who enjoy the other amenities of the climate of Peermade to put your hands deep into your pockets and do what is necessary to have good water. You cannot expect every thing to be done by Government for a cluster of a few houses. The Government cannot undertake a big water-supply scheme for the sake of a few people.

Member.—The officers themselves are suffering.

Dewan.—They must go and get fresh water from places where they can have it. There are wells in Peermade. When I was there, I got water. For the sake of a few houses, we cannot spend Rs. 50,000 or a lackh of rupees. When I was at Peermade I made out a town planning scheme and asked for the details being worked out. You may work in that direction and get people to buy sites.

Member.—The lands have not been surveyed nor have the details of the sites available been notified in the Gazette.

Dewan.—We will publish them in due course. Let us see whether people come forward and take up sites there.

In regard to the fuel reserve a certain spot has been set apart for this purpose and nothing has been done.

Member.—No. A nursery has been opened. If you were to allow this scheme, the place would be free from wild animals.

Dewan.—That matter will be considered. You may examine the advantages and disadvantages of your scheme and mine.

You say that the dead bodies in the hospital are buried on the banks of the river. That is very bad. I will ask the Darbar Physician to see and to make arrangements for burying dead bodies away from the stream. There are plenty of lands at the disposal of Government and some land which is not objectionable might be set apart for this purpose.

You say that you require contagious diseases sheds set apart in the hospital. That also will be considered.

Member.—There has been no midwife there for the last four months.

Dewan.—If one midwife runs away, we will appoint another. There was some quarrel between the midwife and the medical officer and the matter will engage the attention of Government.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-45 P. M.

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